

In the Claims

1 1. [Previously Presented] A method comprising:
2 first determining, by a processor within a peripheral device, that an amount of
3 a consumable associated with the peripheral device has decreased below a
4 predetermined threshold;
5 first transmitting an email from the peripheral device to order additional
6 supplies of the consumable; and
7 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine, and
8 further comprising:
9 second determining, by the processor within the hard copy output engine,
10 when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
11 second transmitting an email to request periodic service in response to the
12 second determining.

1 2. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 3. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email to a personal computer associated
3 with the peripheral device, and further comprising transmitting a second email from
4 the personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 4. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 determining comprises determining when a toner level in the hard copy output
3 engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1 5. [Canceled].

1 6. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the processor
2 comprises an embedded web server, and wherein the second determining comprises
3 determining using the embedded web server.

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1 7. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the processor
2 comprises an embedded web server, wherein the first determining comprises
3 determining when a toner level in a hard copy output engine has decreased below a
4 toner low threshold and wherein the first transmitting comprises transmitting the
5 email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 8. [Previously Presented] An article of manufacture comprising a
2 computer usable medium having computer readable code embodied therein that is
3 configured to cause a processor contained in a peripheral device to:
4 first determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the
5 peripheral device has decreased below a predetermined threshold;
6 first transmit a first email from the peripheral device to order additional
7 supplies of the consumable;
8 second determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached;
9 and
10 second transmit a second email to request periodic service in response to
11 reaching the predetermined work threshold.

1 9. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the
3 peripheral device to first transmit the first email comprises computer readable code
4 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the
5 first email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 10. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the
3 peripheral device to first transmit comprises computer readable code configured to
4 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to transmit the first email to a
5 personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from the
6 personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

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1 11. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the
3 computer readable code configured to cause the processor contained in the
4 peripheral device to first determine comprises computer readable code configured to
5 cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to determine when a toner
6 level in the hard copy output engine has decreased below a toner low threshold.

1 12. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine.

1 13. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor
3 comprises an embedded web server and further comprising computer readable code
4 configured to cause the embedded web server to perform the second determination
5 and the second transmission.

1 14. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and the processor
3 comprises an embedded web server and wherein the computer readable code
4 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to first
5 determine comprises computer readable code configured to cause the embedded
6 web server to determine when a toner level in a hard copy output engine has
7 decreased below a toner low threshold and wherein the computer readable code
8 configured to cause the processor contained in the peripheral device to first transmit
9 comprises computer readable code configured to cause the embedded web server to
10 transmit the first email to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 15. [Previously Presented] A computer implemented control system for a
2 hard copy output engine, the system comprising:
3 memory configured to store a software module; and
4 processing circuitry configured to employ the software module to:
5 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with a
6 peripheral device has decreased below a predetermined threshold;

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7 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional
8 supplies of the consumable; and
9 wherein the processing circuitry is configured to transmit the email to
10 a personal computer associated with the peripheral device for retransmission from
11 the personal computer to a vendor web site across a firewall.

1 16. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module
3 to:

4 determine that an amount of a consumable associated with the peripheral
5 device has decreased below a predetermined threshold; and

6 transmit an email from the peripheral device to order additional supplies of the
7 consumable.

1 17. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and wherein the
3 processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web server, and
4 the embedded web server is further configured to:

5 determine when a toner level in the hard copy output engine has decreased
6 below a toner low threshold; and

7 transmit an email across a firewall to a vendor web site to order additional
8 toner in response to determining.

1 18. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 15, wherein the peripheral device comprises a hard copy output engine and
3 wherein the processing circuitry and memory together comprise an embedded web
4 server, and the embedded web server is configured to perform the determination and
5 the transmission.

1 19. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the peripheral device is chosen from a group consisting of: facsimile
3 machines, photocopiers and printers and wherein the processing circuitry and
4 memory together comprise an embedded web server.

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1 20. [Original] The computer implemented control system of claim 15,
2 wherein the processing circuitry is further configured to employ the software module
3 to:

4 determine when a predetermined work threshold has been reached; and
5 transmit an email to request periodic service in response to reaching the
6 predetermined work threshold.

1 21. [Canceled].

1 22. [Canceled].

1 23. [Canceled].

1 24. [Canceled].

1 25. [Canceled].

1 26. [Canceled].

1 27. [Canceled].

1 28. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email directly from the peripheral device to a
3 vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 29. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the second
2 transmitting the email comprises transmitting the email directly from the peripheral
3 device to a provider that performs the periodic service.

1 30. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 7, wherein the vendor
2 web site comprises a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 31. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting responsive to the first determining.

1 32. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 31, wherein the first
2 transmitting comprises transmitting the email directly from the peripheral device to a
3 vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

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1 33. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the first
2 transmitting is initiated using the processor within the peripheral device.

1 34. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 15, wherein the processing circuitry is configured to transmit the email
3 responsive to the determination.

1 35. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 34, wherein the processing circuitry is configured to initiate direct
3 communication of the email to a vendor of the supplies of the consumable.

1 36. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the second
2 determining comprises determining when the predetermined work threshold
3 comprising a predetermined number of sheets printed by the hard copy output
4 engine has been reached.

1 37. [Previously Presented] The method of claim 1, wherein the second
2 determining comprises determining when the predetermined work threshold
3 comprising a predetermined length of time has been reached.

1 38. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the second determining comprises determining when the predetermined work
3 threshold comprising a predetermined number of sheets printed by the peripheral
4 device has been reached.

1 39. [Previously Presented] The article of manufacture of claim 8, wherein
2 the second determining comprises determining when the predetermined work
3 threshold comprising a predetermined length of time has been reached.

1 40. [Previously Presented] The computer implemented control system of
2 claim 15, wherein the peripheral device and the personal computer are within a side
3 of the firewall opposite to a side of the vendor.

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